

Summary of communications/meetings with UEC

Stacey Dwyer to: Wren Stenger

Cc: Philip Dellinger, Ray Leissner, David Gillespie

08/23/2012 11:56 AM

From:

Stacey Dwyer/R6/USEPA/US

To:

Wren Stenger/R6/USEPA/US@EPA

Cc:

Philip Dellinger/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, Ray Leissner/R6/USEPA/US@EPA, David Gillespie/R6/USEPA/US@EPA



Summary of EPA and UEC meetings and communications 23August 2012.docx

00617.pdf

Summary of EPA and UEC meetings and communications

Date	Participants	Discussion topics	
Date		nd Prior to Meetings	
November 14, 2008	EPA and TCEQ	EPA expressed need for the two-phase ground water	
14, 2008	LIA and ICLQ	modeling for Aquifer Exemptions (AE)	
May 24, 2011	TCEQ	TCEQ submitted AE for Goliad Formation	
July 1, 2011	EPA (Flores) letter to TCEQ	EPA initial review indicates GW modeling needed and	
July 1, 2011	(Jablonski)	application incomplete	
August 8, 2011	EPA Letter to TCEQ		
August 23, 2011	TCEQ (Vickery) letter to EPA (Flores)	Request for EPA to process AE without modeling	
May 16, 2012	EPA (Honker) letter to TCEQ (Covar)	Region sent a letter to TCEQ reaffirming the Region's view that the exemption does not meet the current use criterion in the federal regulations, and identified ground water modeling as a possible method to demonstrate no current use.	
May 24, 2012	TCEQ Letter to EPA	TCEQ declines to provide modeling and requests EPA to	
•		make a decision on the AE.	
EPA and UEC specific meetings/correspondence			
December 2, 2011	EPA meeting with UEC	EPA expresses concerns on the many drinking water wells surrounding the proposed mine. Request for modeling to assure protection of current drinking water wells. UEC introduced computer modeling used during contested TCEQ proceedings. EPA stated this modeling didn't address current use.	
January 18, 2012,	EPA meeting with UEC	UEC discussed using a simplistic model. R6 indicated that the model was deficient as no site specific data inputs. R6 provided a definition of current use. UEC disagrees with current use definition. R6 offered to provide UEC with model input parameters for a two phase modeling approach.	
June 25, 2012	EPA meets with TCEQ and UEC in Austin	 UEC expressed a desire to re-draw the boundaries of the proposed exemption to reduce the number of wells within ¼ mile. UEC stated they could provide data to show that the four sands of the Goliad Aquifer were hydrologically isolated in the area of the proposed exemption. UEC agreed to provide information that groundwater flow in the proposed exempted area was not in the direction of nearby wells. 	
July 9, 2012	Call from B. Honker (EPA) to Andy Barrett (UEC)	 EPA request for the following information based on Austin meeting Pump test or other data to support UEC's contention that the four sands are not hydrologically connected. The revised map shows groundwater flow to the east. This is inconsistent with our earlier understanding, so we need the data/rationale which supports this assertion. A capture zone rationale for why any of the wells still within the 1/4 mile are not drawing water from the proposed exempted area. 	

L. L. 44 2042	C-11 f	Diamental provide board on call
July 11, 2012	Call from Ann Codrington	Discussion of data that UEC agreed to provide based on call
	(OGWDW) to Harry Anthony	from July 10, 2012.
	(UEC).	
July 12 and 13, 2012	UEC emails EPA	UEC submits 1) cross sections from Mine Permit application,
		2) pump tests for Production Area Authorization application,
		and 3) groundwater model information.
July 24, 2012	Call with EPA, TCEQ, and UEC	EPA indicated that UEC needed to supply the background
		data and calculations that were used to develop the
		rationale and justification regarding isolation of the ore
		sands and ground water flow direction. UEC agreed to
		supply a CD with this information by July 27 th .
July 27, 2012	UEC email	UEC submits additional data
August 16, 2012	EPA meeting with UEC, TCEQ	Discussion on 1) isolation of sands via pump tests data, 2)
	Goliad County Groundwater	exploratory bore holes serving as potential conduits, and 3)
	Conservation District and	ground water flow direction.
	Goliad County	EPA indicates that UEC's pump tests are extrapolated to
		include down gradient wells to show isolation are not
		sufficient as distant is over 1000 feet and considering the
		fault and test holes that are currently open. Goliad County
		points to data in the UEC application that shows ground
		water flows east to west in certain locations (UEC indicated
		this was an error in their application).
		UEC agrees to provide 1) documentation that bore holes
		closed via RRC, and 2) additional pump tests information.
August 21, 2012	EPA conference call with UEC	
		indicated proves isolation along the faults. UEC indicated
		that they could not provide off-site data due to site access
		issues.
August 22, 2012	UEC sent CD via mail	CD that lists plugged wells via Railroad Commission affidavit.